

ORDINANCE NO. 14844

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 74 - 2010

INTRODUCED BY ADMINISTRATION

NOVEMBER 3, 2010

AN ORDINANCE

Amends Article 395, Community and Economic Development Fees, by increasing fees charged by the Bureau of Building Standards and Safety.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That Article 395 be amended to read as follows:

395.07 UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE STATE MANDATED FEE

The State Mandated Uniform Construction Code Permit Fee authorized under the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act shall be Two (\$2) Dollars, and shall be assessed on all Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code required permits.

395.08 BUILDING FEES

All fees are payable upon examination of plans and permit routing, regardless of timing of construction.

1. Type I and II Construction: For the inspection of each building classified as Type I and Type II construction, the fee shall be Eighty-five (\$85) Dollars for the first five hundred (500) square feet or less of floor area, plus Sixty (\$60) Dollars for each additional five hundred (500) square feet or less floor area. The fee for Open Parking Structures, four (4) stories or less in height or under two hundred thousand (200,000) square feet, shall be calculated at one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the calculated fee.

2. Type III Construction: For the inspection of each building classified as Type III construction, the fee shall be Twenty (\$20) Dollars for each one hundred (100) square feet or less of floor area up to and including five hundred (500) square feet. For an area in excess of five hundred (500) square feet or floor area, the fee shall be Eighty-five (\$85) Dollars, plus Fifteen (\$15) Dollars for each additional one hundred (100) square feet or less of floor area.

3. Type IV and V Construction: For the inspection of each building classified as Type IV or

Type V construction, the fee shall be Fifty-five (\$55) Dollars up to and including five hundred (500) square feet. For each additional one hundred (100) square feet, the fee shall be Fifteen (\$15) Dollars.

4. Certificate of Occupancy Inspection Fee: The fee shall be charged per inspection passed or failed in the amount of Fifty (\$50) Dollars for each Residential Unit and One Hundred (\$100) Dollars for commercial buildings passed or failed. This fee shall be payable at the time the Building Permit is issued. Additional C.O. Inspection shall be paid for prior to each additional inspection as required. A Certificate of Occupancy Inspection Fee of Twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars for a residential, electrical, plumbing, mechanical inspection and Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for a commercial electrical, plumbing, mechanical, inspection passed or failed will be charged at the time the permit is issued. In the event of multiple trade permits, only one fee of Twenty-five (\$25.00) will be charged. This fee will not be assessed if a Building Permit Certificate of Occupancy is paid for separately. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

5. Alterations and Repairs: For the inspection of a building for alterations or repairs to existing structures, including the installation of signs and pools, the fee shall be Fifteen (\$15) Dollars for each One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars with a minimum fee of Fifty (\$50) Dollars. The Inspections Division shall have the right to verify or correct the estimated value of any proposed building structure addition or alteration; additions include permanent encroachments, patios, car ports, etc. (14558 §1 12/20/07; 14678 §1 12/18/08)

6. Building Evaluation: On site inspections and review of a building or structure for the purpose of building code evaluation or application shall require fee of ~~One Hundred (\$100)~~ Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, which includes the first floor and basement. Additional floors shall be charged at the rate of ~~Fifty (\$50)~~ One Hundred (\$100) Dollars per floor within the same addressed building or structure.

7. Moving Buildings: A permit shall be granted for the moving of a building upon payment of a fee of One Hundred (\$100) Dollars for a dwelling or larger building and a fee of Fifty-five (\$55) Dollars shall be added for each day a street, road, alley or lane is occupied by a building or moving equipment. In addition, thereto, a permit shall be secured for the structure at the new location in accordance with the permit fee schedule established for new construction.

8. Demolition: The permit fee for all buildings or structures shall be Seventy-five (\$75) Dollars for the first one thousand (1,000) square feet of floor area including basement plus Forty-five (\$45) Dollars for each additional one thousand (1,000) square feet or fraction thereof.

9. Plans Examination: The following shall be charged upon submission of all required drawings or preliminary plans for plans examination.

Residential: 1 & 2 Family Additions - ~~\$50~~ \$85/1,000 square feet or fraction thereof
1 & 2 Family Homes - \$150 for 1,500 square feet or less
\$250 for more than 1,500 feet

Commercial: ~~\$85~~ \$100 up to 500 square feet (14678 §1 12/18/08)
~~\$250~~ \$200 between 501 and 1,500 square feet. Above 1,500 square feet to
Must go to a 3rd Party Review
(14558 §1 12/20/07; (14678 §1 12/18/08)

A City Review Fee shall be assessed for all 3rd Party Plans to be processed by the City as follows:

\$100 up to 500 square feet

\$200 between 501 and 1,500 square feet

\$250 above 1500 square feet

There shall be a re-submission fee of Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars per Residential and Seventy-five (\$75.00) for Commercial drawings or plans that are re-submitted for examination.

10. Roof Covering or Replacement: The permit fee shall be one and one tenth (1.1%) of the total cost of the project but no less than Sixty-five (\$65) Dollars for non-residential structures.

The fee for residential structures shall be Two Dollars (\$2.00) a square (one square is equal to 100 square feet) but no less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars with a maximum Sixty-five (\$65) Dollars. An additional Fifteen (\$15) Dollar fee for replacement of roof rafters, roof supports or sheathing on non-residential and residential structures shall be charged.

11. Parking Lots: for the inspection of parking lots, the fee shall be Fifteen (\$15) Dollars for each One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars with a maximum fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150) Dollars. The Bureau shall have the right to verify or correct the estimated value of any proposed parking lot. 14678 §1 12/18/08)

12. Archives: An Archive Fee of ~~Three (\$3)~~ Ten (\$10) Dollars per permit shall be added to all permit application fees. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

13. PA State UCC: A fee of Four (\$4) Dollars per permit shall be added to every permit fee as mandated by the PA State UCC (Bill N044-2004 Section 395.07). (14558 §1 12/20/07)

14. Appeals. Housing Appeals Board Fees shall be Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars per application. Building Appeals Board fees shall be One Hundred (\$100) Dollars for 1 and 2 Family residential, and Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars for all others. Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals shall be Twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars per application. (14558 §1 12/20/07; 14714 §1 04/01/09)
395.07, Uniform Construction Code State Mandated Fee, and that the remainder of the sections be numbered accordingly:

395.09 ELECTRICIANS LICENSE FEE

The yearly electrician license fee, renewable January 1 through January 31 each year, shall be:

\$90 Master Electrician License;
\$80 Residential Electrician License;
\$60 Journeyman Electrician License;
\$50 Special Electrician License;
\$50 Electrical Appliance Installer License
\$50 Telecommunications Installer (no test required) (14558 §1 12/20/07)

When an applicant fails to renew the license before January 31st, a surcharge shall be attached to the license fee as follows:

\$90 Master Electrician	Surcharge	\$40 <u>\$45</u>
\$80 Residential Electrician	Surcharge	37 <u>\$40</u>
\$60 Journeyman	Surcharge	25 <u>\$30</u>
\$50 Special Electrician	Surcharge	25
\$50 Electrical Appliance/Installer	Surcharge	25

(14012 §1 8/01/02; 14558 §1 12/20/07)

There will be a fee of Ten (\$10) Dollars for a replacement license.

395.10 ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES

1. Primary voltages for motors, transformers, vaults, enclosures and substations fees are as follows:

\$90 Each	Up to 150 KVA
\$100 Each	200 - 400 KVA
\$150 Each	500 - 1000 KVA
\$180 Each	Over 1000 KVA

2. Motors, generators and transformers fees are as follows:

\$25 Each	½ to 5 HP or KW
\$40 Each	7-1/2 to 30 HP or KW
\$50 Each	Over 40 HP or KW

Note: Fractional motors below ½ HP are to be included in rough wiring schedule. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

3. Feeders and panel boards fees are as follows:

\$30 Each	100 - 200 amp
\$40 Each	225 - 350 amp
\$50 Each	400 - 1000 amp
\$90 Each	Over 1000 amp

4. Services: Permanent and construction fees are as follows:

\$50	up to 200 amp - including 1-6 outlets
\$85	225 to 350 amp
\$95	400 to 1000 amp
\$160	Over 1000 amp
\$15	Each additional meter
\$45	Owner's meter

5. Rough wiring outlet fees are as follows:

\$40	1 - 25 outlets
10	Each additional 25

6. Minor alterations and additions fees are as follows:

\$75	1 - 25 outlets, including service to 200 amps
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For additional outlets, apply the rough wiring schedule.

7. Residential (new construction and rehabilitation flat rate schedule) fees are as follows:

\$90	Single Family Dwelling not over 100 amp service (heat additional)
\$90	Single Family Dwelling not over 200 amp service (heat additional)
\$40	Two Family and over EACH UNIT, includes electric heat (plus charge for Service Entrance).

8. Heating, air conditioning and similar equipment fees are as follows:

\$40	Each installation of 30 KW or less
\$50	Each above 30 KW

9. Swimming pool fees are as follows:

\$45	Private - Single Family Dwelling
\$110	Public - New Construction and Recertification

10. Nursing and Convalescent homes (as requested by other Public Agencies) fees are:

\$60	Per hour or part thereof
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11. Emergency alarm device fees are as follows:

A fee of Four (\$4) Dollars per device with a Fifty (\$50) Dollar Minimum:

12. Minimum fee is:

\$45	Minimum Charge
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Note: Special conditions not provided in this schedule, apply for fee.

13. Telecommunications: New installation and replacement in commercial and multi-family dwellings (each individual piece of equipment is considered a device) fees are as follows:

\$35	1 - 25 devices
\$45	25 -100 devices
10	Every 25 devices over 100

14. Yearly Electrical Permits

\$270	Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Facilities Only (14012 §1 8/01/02)
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15. If the work is to be performed by a contractor or subcontractor, that information should be provided on the application for permit. (14424 §2 10/6/06)

16. ~~Electricians~~ Licensing Test Application Fee: Shall be ~~Eighty-five (\$85)~~ Fifty (\$50) Dollars.

395.11 PLUMBERS' LICENSE FEES

1. The yearly plumbers license fee, due and payable January 1 and renewable through January 31, shall be:

\$90	Master Plumber
\$60	Journeyman Plumber

2. When a plumber fails to renew the license before January 31, a surcharge shall be attached to the licensing fee as follows:

\$45	Master Plumber	
\$30	Journeyman Plumber	(14012 §1 8/01/02)

3. Plumber's License Test Fees: \$85 Master License
\$50 Journeyman License

4. There will be a fee of Ten (\$10) Dollars for a replacement license. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

395.12 PLUMBING AND SEWER FEES

1. New Installations and Replacements: The fee for residential plumbing installation up to and including three (3) stories for the first three (3) fixtures shall be Thirty (\$30) Dollars with a fee of Fifteen (\$15) Dollars for each additional fixture in excess. All other types of buildings or structures shall be charged a fee of Thirty-five (\$35) Dollars for the first three (3) fixtures with a fee of Fifteen (\$15) Dollars per fixture thereafter.

2. Water Line Replacements: The fee for installation for new water lines or the repair of water lines from the curb box shall be Forty (\$40) Dollars.

3. Sanitary Sewer: The permit fee for a new sanitary sewer hook up or repair or replacement shall be Forty (\$40) Dollars for each lateral from the building.

4. Storm Sewer: The inspection of storm sewer connections shall be Fifty-five (\$55) Dollars.

5. Appliance Permits: The permit fee for each water softener shall be Thirty-five (\$35) Dollars. (14012 §1 8/01/02)

1.If the work is to be performed by a contractor or subcontractor, that information should be provided on the application for permit. (14424 §3 10/6/06)

395.13 SHEET METAL TECHNICIAN LICENSE FEES

The Sheet Metal Technicians License Fee, due and payable January 1st and renewable through January 31st, every other year, shall be:

Sheet Metal Technician	\$180
Sheet Metal Apprentice	\$120

When an applicant fails to renew the license before January 31st of the appropriate year, a surcharge shall be attached to the License Fee as follows:

Sheet Metal Technician	\$90
Sheet Metal Apprentice	\$60

There will be a fee of twenty (\$20) dollars for a replacement license. (14711§1 5/17/2009)

395.14 PENALTY FEES

1. Work without required permits. In addition to the Permit Fee set by this Schedule, a fee of One Hundred (\$100) Dollars per permit shall be charged for work in progress or completed without required permits.

2. Excessive inspections on the same issue. In addition to the Permit Fee set by this Schedule, the following fees will apply for inspections requested and required above and beyond two (2) footer/foundation and two (2) rough:

Third Inspection	\$50 for every permit reinspection
Fourth Inspection	\$75 for every permit reinspection
Fifth Inspection or more	\$100 for every permit reinspection (14678 §1 12/18/08)

395.15 CORRECTIVE ACTION ADMINISTRATIVE FEE (AMENDS 1741.15e)

1. Work without required permits. In addition to the Permit Fee set by this schedule, a fee of One Hundred (\$100) Dollars per permit shall be charged for work in progress or completed without required permits. (14558 §1 12/20/07; 14678 §1 12/18/08)

2. Excessive Inspections on the same issue. In addition to the Permit Fee set by this schedule, the following fees will apply for inspections requested and required above and beyond two (2) footer/foundation and two (2) rough:

Third Inspection	\$50 for every permit reinspection
Fourth Inspection	\$75 for every permit reinspection
Fifty Inspection or more	\$100 for every permit reinspection 914678 §1 12/18/08)

The City will add an Administrative Fee of Three Hundred (\$300) Dollars or 15% of the cost of abatement to each bill incurred, whichever is greater, as a result of non-compliance with a Public Nuisance Order. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

395.16 HOUSING REHABILITATION FINANCIAL APPLICATION FEE

An application fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150) Dollars per project shall be paid at the time the Housing Rehabilitation Financing Application is approved. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

395.17 SIGNS

The Sign Erector fee shall be Ninety (\$90) Dollars.

1. Permit: For a sign of one hundred (100) square feet or less, the permit fee shall be Thirty (\$30) Dollars. For a sign over one hundred (100) square feet, the fee shall be Forty-five (\$45) Dollars. (14012 §1 8/01/02)

395.18 MECHANICAL FEES

All fees are payable upon examination of plans and permit routing regardless of the time of construction or remodeling. Mechanical fees are for heating, ventilation and air conditioning and other systems for Residential and Non-residential uses.

1. Residential Properties with three (3) or more units and Non-residential or Mixed-use Properties:

HVAC/Appliances: The fee for appliances utilizing gas, liquid or solid fuel, such as, but not limited to water heaters, boilers, furnaces; and, for chimneys, vents and mechanical refrigeration shall be Fifty (\$50) Dollars per unit. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

Duct work and/or Connecting Piping: The fee shall be One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) per One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars of the total cost of construction with a minimum fee of Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

2. Residential Properties with two (2) or Less Units:

The fee for centralized heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems, appliances such as, but not limited to, water heaters, boilers, furnaces; and, for duct work and/or connecting piping complete, shall be Forty (\$40) per unit. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

The fee for replacement of HVAC appliances connected to existing duct work or piping shall be Thirty (\$30) Dollars per appliance. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

The fee for chimneys shall be Fifteen (\$15) Dollars per One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars of construction with a minimum of Forty-five (\$45) Dollars. (14012 §1 8/01/02; (14558 §1 12/20/07)

3. If the work is to be performed by a contractor or subcontractor, that information needs to be provided on the application for permit. (14424 §3 10/6/06)

395.19 FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

1. Sprinkler Systems: The fee for a sprinkler system for other than 1 and 2 family structures shall be based on the number of sprinkler heads; from 1 to 20 heads shall be One Hundred (\$100) Dollars; 21-200 Heads shall be Two Hundred Fifty (\$250) Dollars; and 201 plus head shall be Four Hundred (\$400) Dollars. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

- The sprinkler system fee for a one (1) and two (2) family structure shall be one (1%) percent of the total cost of the construction but no less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars.
- For pipe and hydraulic calculated, the fee shall be Three Hundred Sixty (\$360) Dollars.
- Alterations to existing systems shall be charged Fifty-five (\$55) Dollars per 395.07 #5 – Alterations and Repairs.

2. Standpipe Systems: For the inspection of a standpipe system, the fee shall be Forty-five (\$45) Dollars per floor.

3. Suppression Systems: For commercial cooking and frying systems, the fee shall be Forty-five (\$45) Dollars. (14012 §1 8/01/02; (14558 §1 12/20/07)

4. If the work is to be performed by a contractor or subcontractor, that information should to be provided on the application for permit. (14424 §5 10/6/06)

395.20 TANKS

All tanks installed, abandoned or removed for the use of volatile flammables, liquefied petroleum gas, fuel oil and other gases or liquids shall require permit fees for the installation of new tanks; as well as abandonment of tanks (temporary or permanent) and the removal of tanks shall be One Hundred (\$100) Dollars per tank for commercial property; Forty (\$40) Dollars per tank for residential property. (14012 §1 8/01/02)

395.21 ENCROACHMENTS

Fees for approved encroachments shall be:

1. Temporary Encroachments: Every approved temporary encroachment other than dumpsters, soda and/or other vending machines shall have a fee of Twenty (\$20) Dollars per year, plus a monthly fee of Twenty-five (\$.25) Cents per square foot.

2. Dumpsters: The fee for approved dumpsters placed within the public right-of-way, twenty (20) cubic yards or less shall be Thirty-five (\$35) Dollars per month. For dumpsters more than twenty (20) cubic yards, the fee shall be Fifty-five (\$55) Dollars per month.

3. Permanent Encroachments: The fee for approved permanent encroachments shall be Forty (\$40) Dollars. This fee is in addition to any construction or other permit fees the permanent encroachment is charged.

4. Sidewalk Cafes: The fee for approved sidewalk cafes shall be Forty (\$40) per year. (14012 §1 8/01/02)

395.22 WEED CUTTING

1. Inspectors shall be required to notify a property owner, only once per calendar year, that their property needs cutting before having the City cut the weeds and bill the owner. Said notice shall advise the property owner that the City will cut the weeds at the owner's cost if not correct within five (5) days of said notice.

2. Where the public office or the City takes corrective action to abate a public nuisance, the cost thereof, including any labor or materials supplied by the City plus an administrative fee of Three Hundred (\$300) Dollars added to each bill incurred shall be charged to the owner and shall constitute a municipal lien against the real property upon which said cost and fee were incurred. For nuisance abatements in excess of Two Thousand (\$2,000) Dollars, the administrative fee shall be fifteen (15%) percent of the actual cost incurred, including any labor or materials supplied by the City. (14558 §1 12/20/07)

SECTION TWO: That is Ordinance shall take effect January 1, 2011.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

	Yea	Nay
W. Michael Donovan	X	
Jeanette Eichenwald	X	
Julio A. Guridy	X	
Ray O'Connell	X	
Michael Schlossberg	X	
Peter G. Schweyer	X	
Michael D'Amore, President	X	
TOTAL	7	0

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was passed by City Council on December 1st and signed by the Mayor on December 3rd, 2010.


CITY CLERK

LEGISLATIVE TEMPLATE

Instructions:

- E-mail the Bill to Ken Bennington and Barbara Molitoris by the 2nd or 4th Monday of each month – bennington@allentowncity.org and molitoris@allentowncity.org to be placed on the following Council meeting agenda. The request will be sent back if the pertinent information is not supplied. Supporting Documents should be included in the e-mail and attached to the bill if necessary. Examples of supplemental information include petitions, maps, reports, rezoning petitions. We will track the bill and fill in the underlined sections.

Template for Bills and Resolutions:

- **What Department or bureau is Bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?**

Department of Community and Economic Development and Bureau of Building Standards and Safety

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

Increase and create new fees to effectively run the Building Inspections Division of the Bureau.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **What does the Bill do – what are the specific goals/tasks the bill seek to accomplish**
 - **What are the Benefits of doing this/Down-side of doing this**
 - **How does this Bill related to the City's Vision/Mission/Priorities**

The purpose is to increase fees to recover the real costs involved in inspections and plans examining. The benefits are to help make City services pay for themselves and not be a burden to the general tax payer.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **Cost (Initial and ongoing)**
 - **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

Cost is none.

Benefits as listed above.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **If transferring funds, please make sure bill gives specific accounts; if appropriating funds from a grant list the agency awarding the grant.**

N/A

- **Priority status/Deadlines, if any**

To begin by January 1, 2011

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

It is a win/win for the City and its citizens.

- **Committee Action**
- **Public Comments**
- **Body/Text of the Bill**
- **Exhibits**
- **Vote**